

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 05266 291509Z

51

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 AID-20 DPW-01

IO-13 RSR-01 /138 W

----- 085234

O P 291421Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5127

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

USDEL JCRC PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

CDR USSAG, NLP THAILAND PRIORITY

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI, UDORN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 5266

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, MOPS, PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: LAO PROTOCOL NEGOTIATIONS: LPF INFORMS CO-CHAIRMEN

THAT MAJOR ISSUES RESOLVED AND THAT PROTOCOL WILL BE
SIGNED WITHIN WEEK

1. ON JULY 28, LPF PERMREP SOTH PHETRASY CALLED ON INDIAN CHAIR-
MAN ICC, ON POLISH AND CANADIAN ICC COMMISSIONERS, AND ON UK AND
USSR AMBASSADORS TO INFORM THEM THAT RLG AND LPF HAD RESOLVED ALL
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PAGE 02 VIENTI 05266 291509Z

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES IN PROTOCOL NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT LPF ANTICIPATED

PROTOCOL WOULD BE SIGNED WITHIN THE WEEK.

2. SOTH CONFIRMED CONTOURS OF AGREEMENT WHICH WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. ACCORDING ICC CANDEL, SOTH SPECIFICALLY OUTLINED AGREEMENT ON FOLLOWING ISSUES:

A. DISTRIBUTION OF PORTFOLIOS: LINGERING QUESTION OF WHAT RLG SHOULD RELINQUISH IN EXCHANGE FOR RETAINING MINISTRY OF INTERIOR WAS REPORTEDLY RESOLVED WITH RLG YIELDING MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS TO LPF, GETTING MINISTRY OF HEALTH IN RETURN. UNDER THIS CIRCUMSTANCE, FOLLOWING LINE-UP WOULD OBTAIN:

LPF	RLG
FOREIGN AFFAIRS	DEFENSE
ECONOMY/PLAN	INTERIOR
PUBLIC WORKS	FINANCE
RELIGION	EDUCATION
INFORMATION	HEALTH

(NEUTRALS WOULD HAVE JUSTICE AND POSTS/TELECOMMUNICATIONS.)

B. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERSHIP: LPF HAS ASSENTED TO TWO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERS, WITH RLG AGREEMENT THAT "SENIOR" DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WOULD COME FROM LPF SIDE (PRESUMABLY PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG).

C. SECURITY FOR LPF MINISTERS: LPF WILL STATION 3 COMPANIES OF TROOPS IN VIENTIANE AND TWO COMPANIES AT LUANG PRABANG. LPF ALREADY HAS AN ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY IN VIENTIANE ATTACHED TO ITS DELEGATION. ADDING THIS COMPANY TO THREE PROVIDED FOR IN PROTOCOL GIVES LPF ONE BATTALION AT VIENTIANE.

D. STAKES AND INSPECTION TEAMS: BRITISH HAVE HEARD FROM SOTH THAT PROTOCOL WILL PROVIDE FOR 20 STAKES TO SEPARATE OPPOSING FORCES AT "HOT SPOTS" AND FOR SIX JOINT LAO INSPECTION TEAMS.

3. WORD OF IMPENDING AGREEMENT HAS SPREAD QUICKLY. IT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY PUBLIC (THOUGH UNOFFICIAL) STATEMENTS BY SOME RLG MINISTERS AND ALSO BY LPF INTERVIEWS WITH PRESS. AFP HAS FILED A STORY ALONG ABOVE LINES AND AP IS ALSO PLANNING TO DO SO TODAY (JULY 29).

4. COMMENT: AGREEMENT ON TERMS DESCRIBED IS GENERALLY BEING INTERCONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 VIENTI 05266 291509Z

PRETEND AS MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT BY RLG. END COMMENT.
DEAN

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TAGS: PGOV, PINT, MOPS, LA
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